

**LITTLE TRAVERSE BAY BANDS OF ODAWA INDIANS**  
7500 ODAWA CIRCLE  
HARBOR SPRINGS, MI 49740

**DECLARATION 100712-01**

**Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians Opposition to the  
Sport Hunting of Ma'ingan, Gray Wolf**

*A Declaration is a formal written public statement in support or opposition of an issue or matter. One or more Tribal Officers may sign onto a Declaration as individuals. A Declaration shall not obligate or commit the Tribe in any manner. Declarations do not require formal action by the Tribal Council.*

The Waganakising Odawak is a nation of citizens with inherent sovereignty and right to self-governance;

The Little Traverse Bay Bands of Odawa Indians is a federally recognized Indian Tribe under Public Law 103-324, and is a party to numerous Treaties with the United States the most recent of which being the Treaty of Washington of March 28, 1836 (7 Stat. 491) and the Treaty of Detroit of 1855 (11 Stat. 621);

LTBB is a signatory to the federally entered 2007 Inland Consent Decree (as part of the historic *US v. MI*) which details the management and allocation of inland resources between the Tribes and the State of Michigan;

The Gray Wolf is a culturally significant species with a role and place in Odawa culture. In the creation story of the Anishnabe, Ma'ingan, the wolf is a brother to the Original Man. The two traveled together throughout the world naming everything they encountered. Afterward, the Creator had them take separate paths, but told them that both would be feared, respected, and misunderstood by others who would arrive later and that each other's fates would mirror one another;

The Gray Wolf is recognized as a biologically important species critical to bringing balance, sustainability and diversity to forest communities and ecosystems found within the LTBB Reservation and 1836 Ceded Territory;

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LTBB Natural Resource Department (NRD) Strategic Plan's *Goal 4* states the Department will *Identify, Monitor and Assess Culturally Significant Fish, Wildlife and Plant Species*;

LTBB NRD has developed a Ma'ingan, Gray Wolf Management Plan for the LTBB Reservation in which "lethal control" is not authorized as a management tool. Tools authorized within the Plan to avoid and manage wolf/human conflicts are the use of best management practices and the use of a suite of non-lethal control options for occurrences of depredations in addition to increased education and awareness of the benefits of wolves to the general public;

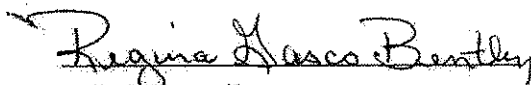
Hunting of Gray wolves is generally not considered and lacks scientific evidence to be an effective method or tool for addressing or reducing wolf/human conflict and may increase conflict;

There is a lack of scientific research or evidence ensuring that socially complex pack animals such as Gray Wolves are capable of being hunted in sustainable manner.


For the above stated reasons, the undersigned Tribal Councilors, Tribal Chair and Vice Chair declare that they are in Opposition to the Sport Hunting of Ma'ingan, Gray Wolf.

  
Tribal Councilor \_\_\_\_\_


Date: 10/7/12

  
Tribal Councilor \_\_\_\_\_


Date: 10-7-12

  
Tribal Councilor \_\_\_\_\_


Date: 10-7-2012

  
Tribal Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

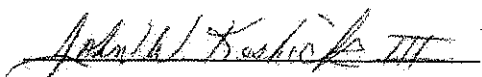
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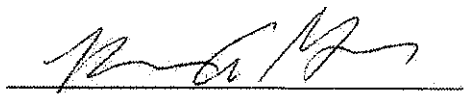
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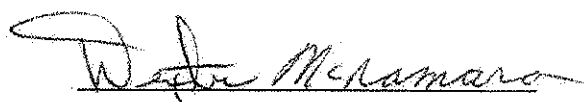
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Tribal Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

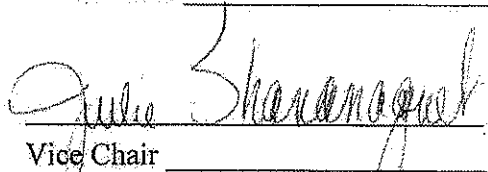
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Tribal Councilor \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 10/7/12

  
Tribal Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 10-8-12

  
Vice Chair \_\_\_\_\_

Date: 10/8/12

A copy of this Declaration is on file at the Tribal Council Legislative Office and the Tribal Chair/Vice Chair Office.